

From the Desk of the Chair



DR. BONNIE MORADI
CHAIR

I have been having many conversations with students and colleagues this year about students' learning experiences and education in gender, race, sexuality, and women's studies. Students are enthusiastic about engaging with these topics through intellectually rigorous material, critical thinking, and creative collaboration. They have many stories to share about the profound value of this learning in their life and work. It is vital to share these stories to promote a clear and accurate understanding of the significance of our field.

This spring, we collaborated with colleagues in and outside of UF on events to feature our students' stories and their significant contributions to our communities. For example, our alum Terri Bailey's work on a racial justice art making Mellon Humanities in Place project was featured in the Women's Entrepreneurship Summit in collaboration with the College of Business. Our alum Gabrielle Magid's work of founding the non-profit Stronger than Stigma was featured in a Career Pathways panel with graduates from women's and gender studies programs across the state of Florida. Our alums Dr. Lorna Bracewell's and Dr. Karina Vado's research on constructions of race and gender was featured in academic career events in collaboration with the Department of Political Science and Department of English, respectively.

Similarly, at a time of growing emphasis on experiential learning and career readiness in higher education, we are proud to have a long-standing history of providing students with rich community-based applied learning opportunities. We place over 200 students in over 30 different community sites per year. Through these experiences, students learn critical skills and provide valuable service in community centers, education programs, health clinics, victim services, and other settings that serve our communities. Community engagement is also embedded in many of our courses. As an example, this newsletter issue features a student-led initiative through our ecofeminism class. Students applied their knowledge and skills to organize a collaboration with a community organization to clean Florida's waterways.



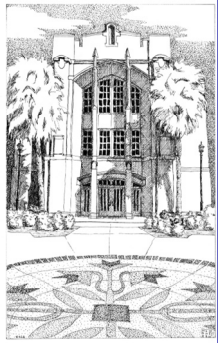
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Environmental Justice Motivation Brings Student Experiential Learning Opportunity



“The texture and profound impact of these [experiential learning] experiences for students is difficult to capture in the institutions spreadsheets and metric generation efforts.”

-Dr. Bonnie Moradi

Noelle Mercer, a Psychology major and Women's Studies minor student of the class of 2023, reflects on the experiential learning activity from WST 4349, Ecofeminism.



SPRING 2023 SEMESTER ECOFEMINISM STUDENTS VOLUNTEER TO CLEAN UP A LOCAL WATERWAY

Our ecofeminism class partnered with the nonprofit [Current Problems](#), the sole organization of its kind in the Southeast that is working to reduce waste in waterways “at its source” and prevent widespread marine pollution. The organization is celebrating its 30-year

anniversary in 2023 and has removed 1,002,848 pounds of waste during its time. Current Problems is directed by Nicole Llinás, who we worked with during our clean-up. The effort began with Nicole explaining the ways that freshwater systems work in Florida, emphasizing the importance of protecting our overexploited Floridan aquifer. She further noted that by cleaning up debris in creeks, we prevent larger-scale marine pollution in Florida. The most striking idea that Nicole brought up is that corporations put the blame for pollution on the general population by using the term “litter.” These companies place plastic and pollutants in consumers’ hands, yet pollution is framed as the consumer’s fault. I had never been exposed to this way of thinking before, yet it makes sense.

A common theme in ecofeminism is that women are disproportionately impacted by environmental destruction. The domination of nature is intimately connected to the domination of women.

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From the Desk of the Chair

Continued from Page 1

The texture and profound impact of these experiences for students is difficult to capture in the institution’s spreadsheets and metric generation efforts designed to codify experiential learning and career readiness. It is in conversation, reflection, and records such as this newsletter that we get to see our students’ rich narratives of learning, knowledge-production, community building, and action.

Our students’ stories are inspiring and a guiding compass for our work ahead.

Environmental Justice Motivation Brings Student Experiential Learning Opportunity

(Continued from page 2)

This clean-up was unique in that the crew was made entirely of women. I have been in very few spaces in my college experience that are facilitated and attended exclusively by women. The camaraderie and unspoken understanding in these spaces is always refreshing to experience. All of us have an education in women's studies, and we spoke about related global issues as we picked up shards of glass by the creek and grimaced at abandoned bags of dog waste. It felt distinct from other environmental conservation efforts I have been a part of – we all shared the understanding that we were benefiting others like us, and one of our primary motivations was environmental justice. While conservation is important to all of us, we also recognize the intersections that exist between environmental and community health. There were only six of us, yet we managed to gather nearly 15 pounds of waste within a couple of hours. It might seem like a meager number, but we did that work with our own two hands. I picked up glass, trash, and plastic that otherwise would still be sitting in the creek bed or beside growing plants. There is an empowerment in knowing that you dedicated personal time to the betterment of your community (and that the 25 mosquito bites on your legs were for a good cause). This work is for those around us, an homage to women

working around the world with their natural resources.

I also learned more about Florida's natural environment. Nicole showed us an invasive plant and how to pick off its berries to prevent further pollination. She even fully uprooted the large bush without a shovel, to the amazement of the group. Having a sharp eye for hidden treasures (and trash) within the forest, she spotted a freshwater snake species coiled up off the trail. These are elements of the environment that I would have passed over otherwise. This clean up served not only to volunteer, but as a mindfulness practice that many could benefit from. I would recommend working with Current Problems to anyone invested in the environment, sustainability, and the people around them. These issues are so much deeper than keeping our waterways clean. It is a way to pay back to the "Mother Earth" who provides for all of us, a direct defiance to a society that values individuality over the collective and places the feminine below the masculine. In our class, we discussed the implications of using feminine language to describe nature. The term "mother" for Earth emphasizes the nurturing aspects of our environment. However, this title connects the domination and exploitation of nature to this feminine figure of the mother. My group analyzed how this association

implicitly condones the exploitation of women at large, as we normalize this pattern through our language. By working with Current Problems, the team was able to remedy this negative association in a small yet powerful way. We chose to take care of "Mother Earth," showing a reverence for the world around us by



A BAG OF TRASH IS WEIGHED BEFORE BEING ADDED TO THE PILE.

creating a reciprocal relationship between humans and nature. Nature provides for us, so we must provide for nature.

This experience brought tangible action to the topics we discussed over the semester. Overall, volunteering with Current Problems was an eye-opening experience for me, and I'm glad that I didn't shy away from walking through the forest at 3 P.M. on a Tuesday (but maybe next time I'll bring bug spray to avoid the mosquito bites).

Celebrating Milestones and Accomplishments

Congratulations to our MA Graduates!

Ebonee Brown graduated with her MA in Women's Studies in Spring 2023. She successfully defended her thesis titled, "My Skin My Logo': Constructions and Deconstructions of Black Masculinity in Atlanta's Southern Hip-Hop" Ebonee recently returned to her community and has secured a job as an administrator for a local think tank.

Beth Holden graduated with her MA in Women's Studies in Spring 2023. She successfully defended her thesis titled, "How Do We Reach Recovery? Autonomous Recovery as Liberatory Praxis." She plans to attend the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in the Fall where she will start a PhD program in Sociology and begin teaching a Women's Studies undergraduate course.

Kelsey Malles graduated with her MA in Women's Studies in Spring 2023. Under the supervision of her committee, Dr. Anita Anantharam and Dr. Nilüfer Akalin, she successfully defended her Master's project "Veganism as a Feminist Practice: Exploring Intersectionality Through an Ecofeminist Lens." She is grateful to her cohort and the Department staff and faculty for their continued support.

Nagdeska Paulino graduated with her MA in Women's Studies in Spring 2023. She successfully defended her MA project, "Expiration Date: Climate Change, Colonialism, and Narrative," which involved a conceptual art exhibit in Ustler Hall. Nagdeska looks forward to exploring her options this summer while continuing to focus on artistic expression as a means to foster difficult but necessary conversations in society.



A GRADUATION CELEBRATION WAS HELD ON APRIL 26TH FOR (LEFT TO RIGHT) KELSEY MALLES, ELISA RIOS, NAGDESKA PAULINO, BETH HOLDEN, AND EBONEE BROWN

Elisa Rios graduated with an MA in Women's Studies in the Spring of 2023. Thanks to the mentorship and care of Dr. Jillian Hernandez, she successfully defended her thesis titled, "Voices of Afro-Latinas: Oral Herstories Exploring their Ethnic and Racial Identities because they are

Not Being Heard!" During her time in the program, she presented her work at the 2023 National Women's Studies Association Conference. She is excited for her post-academic future and opportunities. She thanks department faculty, cohorts, and Donna Tuckey for continued support throughout her MA.

News and Updates From our Continuing Graduate Students

As a rising 2nd year MA student, **Mona Ashour** will continue to work on her thesis, under the supervision of Dr. Hina Shaikh and Dr. Terry Harpold. In March, Mona was selected as an Off-Campus Ambassador by the UF Division of Student Life. Mona served as chair of the Gender Studies Panel for a virtual conference, held on March 24th, by the University of Oradea in Romania.

Rose Capo (she/her) is a rising second-year M.A. candidate in the Department. She is currently working on her thesis tentatively titled "Sex Education in Florida: Queer Floridian Experiences in the Digital Age" that investigates how self-identifying queer Floridians use digital media as a

Celebrating Milestones and Accomplishments

supplemental resource for a comprehensive sex education. Rose's methods of oral histories and a pleasure map art praxis will be compiled into a mini-documentary that can be used as a sex education resource that is accessible to the public. She is excited to begin filming and writing her first chapter this summer.

Ecem Ece is a second-year MA student in the department and a sixth-year PhD in Sociology at UF. During the summer, Ecem will work on their MA and PhD projects on queer activism in Turkey. They will analyze their interviews with queer activists in/from Turkey and oral history archives organized by a queer organization in Turkey.

Ceci Luna is a rising second-year M.A. candidate in the Department. She is currently working on her research project examining gender-inclusive suffixes such as -x and -e as a tool for queer Latinx gender and sexual expression and performance

of the queer Latinx imaginary. During the summer, they will be conducting oral histories and art workshops with participants under the supervision of Dr. Jillian Hernandez.



THE COHORT OF GRADUATES STUDENTS FROM THE EXPECTED CLASS OF 2024 (LEFT TO RIGHT) CECI LUNA, ANGELICA MCGEE, MONA ASHOUR, ROSE CAPO, TEGAN SMITH. (ECEM ECE NOT PICTURED)

Angelica McGee will continue working on her thesis project, tentatively titled, “Black “Boy” Joy: Afropean Art, Cultures and Lived Experiences”, which explores anti-narrative photo poems and oral history accounts of Black men living in Scotland, Italy and France. In addition, she will be transcribing and editing her oral history work with

The Samuel Proctor Oral History Program for the archive that she founded this Spring 2023, entitled “Black Joy”. Before heading home to Las Vegas for a respite in her efforts, she represented GSWS at the UF Center for Public Interest Communications Summer Institute in Houston, Texas.

Tegan Smith will continue research for her MA thesis, focusing on ecofeminist and posthuman understandings of subjectivity. She has already completed a draft of two chapters and is writing a third chapter over the summer with the supervision of Dr. Hina Shaikh.

*Interested in
joining our
graduate
program?*

*Turn to page
fifteen in this
newsletter to
find out more!*



The Transformative Power of Experiential Learning

As Dr. Moradi mentioned in her Chair's letter (p. 1), our department places more than 200 students in experiential learning opportunities each semester. These include internship, practicum, undergraduate research, and undergraduate teaching assistantships. Read the testimonials of some of experiential learning students below.



Megan DeVaney ('23), a Women's Studies and Psychology major, interned with the Alachua County Public Defender's Office. Through direct interactions with clients in the county jail system, Megan witnessed the glaring flaws within the legal system and the disproportionate impact on minority

populations. Drawing on her Women's Studies coursework, she gained a critical understanding of the broader systemic injustices underlying daily courtroom interactions. As she embarks on law school, Megan's advice to students is "to make connections with your professors and clearly express your career dreams. The professors, especially in the Women's Studies department, are more than willing to provide aid and support your personal goals."



Kendra Hall ('22), a Psychology major with a Health Disparities in Society minor, interned with Peaceful Paths, an agency serving

domestic violence survivors in Alachua County. She wrote that this experience "ended up impacting my

future in greater ways than I could have imagined." With practical experiences changing her understanding of classroom material, Kendra reconsidered her career aspirations and embraced the field of social work, which ultimately led her to pursue a Master of Social Work program at Columbia University. Kendra advises students to network, reflect on career goals, and remain open to discovering new and exciting professions.



India Tater ('22), an African American Studies major with a minor in Health Disparities in Society, experienced a transformative journey with Facing

our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE). Through active participation in hands-on research projects, India gained invaluable insights into the intricate complexities of health disparities, transcending the boundaries of textbooks and classrooms. Currently working as a clinical research assistant at a cancer and genetics research center, India credits her experience with FORCE as a strong influence on her current career choice. "FORCE gave me a taste of what to expect while pursuing research and data collection in medical and health careers."

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Congratulations Women's Studies Graduates!

Women's Studies majors gathered for a photo before the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences graduation recognition ceremony at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center on Sunday May 7th, 2023. At this ceremony, Dean David Richardson and chairs and directors recognized students graduating with Bachelors degrees in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Congratulations to all of our class of 2022- 2023 graduates, including Women's Studies majors, and students minoring in Women's Studies, Theories and Politics of Sexuality, and Health Disparities in Society.



The Transformative Power of Experiential Learning, continued



Madison Weech ('23), a Biology major with minors in Spanish and Health Disparities in Society, interned with Gainesville Fire Rescue (GFR). Madison's understanding of the Spanish language proved invaluable, allowing her to bridge a gap with patients who otherwise faced language barriers. Her classroom-based understanding of social determinants of health enabled crucial insights into real-world encounters during the internship. Madison discovered that addressing health disparities plays a pivotal role in lessening the burden placed on emergency medical systems and hospitals, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. This newfound understanding fueled her sense of purpose and illuminated a path forward in her pursuit of a career in emergency medicine. "My experiential learning was easily the most valuable class I took at UF, and it allowed me to gain perspective and a real-world understanding of many of the lessons I had learned in classrooms and lecture halls."

Did you have a transformative learning experience outside the traditional classroom at UF? Do you want to be featured in a future newsletter or on our website? If so, we'd love to hear from you. You can write to undergrad@wst.ufl.edu and we'll send you a survey.

Catching up with GSWS Alums



SUMMER CISNEROS
CLASS OF 2020
BA, WOMEN'S STUDIES,
CUM LAUDE

Since 2018, I have worked for Planned Parenthood of South, East and North Florida. I am currently the Community Health Educator in Alachua County, where I teach comprehensive and inclusive sexual health and personal growth topics at various schools and organizations. I am honored to say I also guest speak at UF!

The education I received in the Women's Studies department has assisted me in my role as I educate young folks about topics such as reproductive justice, gender identity & sexual orientation, and everyone's right to have bodily autonomy. I utilize resources that I obtained in classes such as Sexualities Studies and Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Women's Studies to take an inclusive approach to the curriculum, create a safe environment for all individuals, and give folks information to make healthy decisions for themselves.

I am proud to have received a superior education in the Women's Studies department that continues to benefit me in my career and my continued academic studies as I pursue an MA in Career and Workforce Education at UCF, with a focus on enhancing education and job opportunities for nontraditional students and underserved communities.

Taking WST2611 with Dr. Kelley during my first semester at UF was the deciding factor in pursuing a women's studies degree. I don't know if I would have had my academic career without her, and I went on to take all of her courses.

My women's studies degree was and continues to be instrumental in my research. My love for qualitative research grew during my classes, and Dr. Anantharam introduced me to many theories and philosophers. Dr. Coy also cultured my interest in evidence-based treatment and interventions. It is the knowledge that I gained during these classes, and my experiences as a queer Latina, that have motivated me and made me feel capable of pursuing higher education.

After completing my undergraduate studies in 2021, I pursued a Master of Public Health at Cornell University. There I had the opportunity to collaborate with Johns Hopkins on a project educating Latinx parents on adolescent suicide. I also interned with the Health Equity Research Lab, where I have been working on projects regarding immigrant access to health care.

I am about to start my Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Florida! Go Gators!



LECKY GONZALEZ
CLASS OF 2021
BS, PSYCHOLOGY—
BEHAVIORAL AND
COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE,
BA, WOMEN'S STUDIES
CUM LAUDE

My studies have led me directly to one of the loves of my life, reproductive care. I am currently a manager at Bread and Roses Women's Health Center (Gainesville's independent abortion clinic). I completed an internship at the clinic through my Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies B.A. in 2017 as a Patient Advocate. I continued employment, and was later promoted. I now manage the advocacy team and lead clinic protocols. In short, my education has served as a backdrop for facing the real-life complexities of reproductive injustices, and how an intersectional lens will *always* help us all understand and care for our community, especially women of color.

Our clinic offers internships nearly every semester, so I have the privilege of getting to know and working alongside current Gender & Women's Studies undergrads who often bring refreshing perspectives to patient care. Consistently working with these brilliant young interns is a lovely reminder of the path that led me to this work.



HEATHER STARRATT
CLASS OF 2017
BA, WOMEN'S STUDIES,
CUM LAUDE

Honors Thesis Students Explore Topics of Special Interest

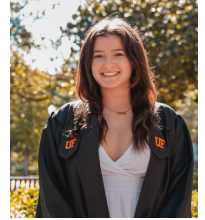
The Department had five students engage in independent scholarship to write honors theses under the direction of faculty this year. They include:



Asia Barlow

"The Role of K-9 forces in Reinforcing Apathy Towards Anti-Black Violence"

Committee members: Dr. Shaikh and Dr. Coy



Maia Bullard

"The Dire Consequences of Restricting Abortion Access"

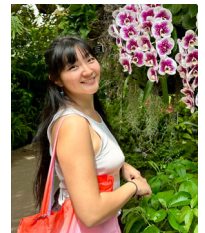
Committee members: Dr. Zucker and Dr. Coy



Miryam Elshaer

"Movement Lawyering: The Power and Potential of Radical Southern Organizing."

Committee members: Dr. Broad and Dr. Anantharam



Yewon (Dani) Sohn

"We've Got the Sun Under our Skin': Examining Racialized Hypersexuality in East and Southeast Asian Women's Cultural Production"

Committee members: Dr. Hernandez and Dr. Chang (History Dept.)



Thabasya Veeramani

"Analyzing the Relationship Between Race and Quality of Reproductive Care"

Committee members: Dr. Shaikh and Dr. Zucker

An Evening of Excellence for Major Asia Barlow



In March 2023, Sociology and Women's Studies major **Asia Barlow** was awarded the CLAS Student Excellence Award in recognition of their academic distinction and community service working on racial justice in Alachua County. Throughout their time at UF, Asia has grown into an outstanding scholar and researcher. In 2020, they won a competitive University Scholars Program award to work on a research project on sexual assault attrition with Dr. Maddy Coy and Dr. Alyssa Zucker.

Asia, pictured here (center) accepting their award, is flanked (left to right) by Dean David Richardson, Associate Dean Gillian Lord, Dr. Anna Peterson, and Dr. Maddy Coy at the Evening of Excellence Awards Ceremony.

Department and Center Events Bring Scholars, Collaborators, and Guests to UF

For complete list of cosponsors, see events calendar on our website <https://wst.ufl.edu/>

- ◆ **“Can We Have Reproductive Justice in a Climate Crisis,”** a talk by Dr. Jade Sasser, UC Riverside, was held on September 20, 2022. This talk was organized by Imagining Climate Change.
- ◆ **“A Short History of Contraception and Abortion in France and the United States,”** a panel discussion with UF faculty **Dr. Danaya C. Wright, Dr. Riché J. Daniel Barnes** and **Dr. Flora Iff-Noel**, took place on November 1, 2022. Moderated by **Dr. Alyssa Zucker**, it was organized by the Department of Classics.
- ◆ **“Embracing Equity: The Power of Working Together for Women’s Empowerment,”** held on March 8, 2023, was organized by the UF International Center. Dr. Brenda Boonbaana, Makerere University, Uganda, was the guest speaker. Dr. Maddy Coy served as moderator.
- ◆ **“Speculative Latinidades: Latinx DNA, Admixed Genomes, and Other Science Fictions,”** held on March 23, 2023, featured FAU assistant professor and UF Alum **Dr. Karina Vado**. It was organized by the Department of English.



Edna Saffy Lecture Series, “Rewriting History: A Conversation with Artist Fabiola Jen-Louis and Porchia Moore,” was held on March 2nd, 2023. *Rewriting History* recently became part of the Harn Museum of Art’s Collection.

- ◆ UF Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies joined FAU, FIU, UCF, New College of Florida, and USF, on March 27, 2023, for **“Career Pathways in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies,”** for a webinar discussing the incredible work that alums are doing across the state and around the world.
- ◆ **“Women’s Entrepreneurship Summit: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs & Leaders: the Importance of Advisors, Mentors, and Sponsors,”** was held on March 31, 2023 and was organized by the UF Entrepreneurship & Innovation Center and the Collaboratory for Women Innovators.
- ◆ On April 6, 2023, **Dr. Jillian Hernandez**, UF GSWS, discussed **“Fast Fashion,”** at the Scott Nygren Studio. The talk was part of the “Ethics Café” organized by the Ethics in the Public Sphere and UF Libraries.
- ◆ **“Stage Body, Stage Gender: Kubuki Actors and Print Identity in Early Modern Japan,”** a talk by Dr. Satoko Shimazaki, UCLA, was held on April 12, 2023.
- ◆ **“Political Science Alumni Conference,”** held April 17-18, 2023, included **Dr. Lorna Bracewell**, who received a Ph.D. in Political Science and a Women’s Studies certificate from UF. Bracewell is now an associate professor at Flagler College.

Opportunities for Giving to the UF Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies

We appreciate the generosity of our donors at all levels. For those thinking of a significant gift, we have some suggestions:

\$250	Garden walk pavers for the Yardley Garden (honor a recent graduate or teacher)
\$500-\$1000	Send a student to a regional or national meeting, or fund a student’s research trip
\$1000	Inscription for an existing bench in Yardley Garden in honor of a friend or loved one
\$2000	A bench in Ustler Hall in honor of a friend or loved one, with an inscribed plaque
\$5000	Sponsor a major named lecture (one time event)
\$5000	Support faculty research for the summer (Faculty Summer Research Fellowship)
\$10,000	Inscription on the Yardley Wall

For majors gifts and other naming opportunities, please contact
Christy Popwell, Director of Development, CLAS: (352) 392-1964 or cpopwell@ufl.edu.

With an Attitude of Gratitude

Thank you to everyone whose generosity supports our work, including the following donors:

- ♥ Gregory R. Allen
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- ♥ Arts Association of Alachua County
- ♥ Association for Academic Women
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- ♥ Vada Allen Yeomans
- ♥ Dr. Alyssa Zucker

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Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

Offers academic programs, grants graduate and undergraduate degrees, and advances research, education, and public engagement in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies.



GSWS Faculty News

Dr. Anita Anantharam was on sabbatical during 2022-2023 and worked on her research supported by a Humanities Scholarship Enhancement award.

Dr. Kendal Broad continued writing about her research about (and with) an interracial group of gay men who were striving to do gay anti-racism in the 1980s, this year publishing a key article about that research in the journal *Sociological Forum*. Dr. Broad also had a busy year transitioning out of the Graduate Coordinator position and teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate level, mentoring undergraduate honor's thesis student Miryam Elshaer, and working with two sociology PhD students (Sarah Paxson and Robert Baez) as they finished their degrees. Dr. Broad was awarded a sabbatical for 2023-2024 to visit archives and complete articles and a book manuscript about AIDS memory activism and gay anti-racism.

Dr. Hilary Coulson taught several courses and hundreds of students for the department in

the past year. She developed and taught a new Quest course called *Novel Women*. The class was full of bright students interested in exploring their identities using popular novels with themes about womanhood. Dr. Coulson is working on her second book (under contract) about leadership, with colleagues Dr. Frank Fernandez and Dr. Yali Zou. Her next book will explore generational leadership and incorporate themes of gender and race in the context of higher education leadership. In addition to teaching and writing, Dr. Coulson worked to support undergraduate advising with Dr. Alyssa Zucker. Through this work, Dr. Coulson recruited several new majors and minors to women's studies and mentored undergraduate teaching assistants.

Dr. Maddy Coy is in the final stages of her book project about violence against women in the U.S. This year she completed a research collaboration with Dr. Alyssa Zucker and Brittany Coleman of Alachua County Victim

Services and Rape Crisis Center, examining patterns in police and prosecutorial processing of sexual assaults. They won an 'honorable mention' for a poster about the study at the 2023 End Violence Against Women International conference. Dr. Coy continued international teaching collaborations. She mentored an exchange student from Ukraine, hosted a Fulbright scholar from the Canary Islands, and was awarded a course enhancement grant from the Center for European Studies.

Dr. Jillian Hernandez published catalogue essays for the exhibitions *All Eyes on Me: Hip Hop, Style, and Contemporary Art* at the Baltimore Museum of Art and *Christina Quarles: Collapsed Time* at Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin Germany. She also published public scholarship for *Latina* magazine and *Refinery29*. In summer of 2022 she was an invited participant in the *Black Feminist Poethics* seminar at the University of Michigan, and she served as the keynote for Texas Tech University's Women's and Gender Studies Annual Conference. Dr. Hernandez was



a featured expert on issues of beauty, race, and gender in media outlets including Good Morning America, W Magazine, and Allure magazine. She presented work at La Chola Conference and the College Art Association conference, in addition to giving invited talks at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the University of Cincinnati.

Dr. Bonnie Moradi coauthored several articles with collaborators, including an article on the hidden curriculum of academic writing (Moradi et al., 2023) and a citation network analysis of publications in *Psychology of Women Quarterly* (Moradi et al., 2023). She was also invited to present her work on theoretical and empirical integration at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Gender Pre-conference and was a panel member for the UF Preparing Future Faculty Program.

Dr. Hina Shaikh continued work on her two-year grant from the National Humanities Center to collaboratively build a course on “Responsible AI Design” with faculty from seven other

universities. She will teach the course “Gender, Race, and Worldbuilding with AI” in Fall 2023. She also helped to organize and moderate a panel for the National Women’s Studies Association with graduate students from the Department and presented in two panels herself. Throughout the year, Dr. Shaikh worked with six students in her Data Justice Lab to collect, analyze, and communicate results to community members for their project centering on K9 policing. This Spring, Dr. Shaikh was featured in the “On Humane Tech” series from Arizona State University where she discussed her forthcoming book project entitled “Fractured Patterns: The Search for Muslim Women in Data.” Additionally, Dr. Shaikh mentored two undergraduate students in completing their thesis projects and undergraduate degrees with honors.

Dr. Trysh Travis continued her work as Associate Dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Alyssa Zucker collaborated with graduate certificate student Hannah Brown and other colleagues outside UF to publish “Distinctly neoliberal: A latent profile analysis of neoliberal ideology and its associations with sociopolitical actions and sexual attitudes” in the journal *Social Justice Research*. She presented her scholarship at multiple conferences and is enjoying networking now that travel is possible again. As Experiential Learning Coordinator, Dr. Zucker developed relationships with six new sites where students can engage in internships and practicums in Alachua County, including [Blossoming Butterfly](#), an organization dedicated to helping women diagnosed with cancer. As Undergraduate Coordinator, Dr. Zucker is looking forward to welcoming students to two new specializations within the Women’s Studies major: *Health Equity and Social Justice* and *Race, Power, and Social Justice*. These will be available to students starting in Summer B 2023.

Department Awards: Charles T. Woods Grant

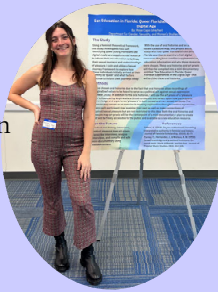
The Department is proud to announce this year's Charles T. Woods Endowment Grants. These grants are made possible by the generosity of Charles T. Woods to support research and service that benefits the LGBTQ+ community. Chuck, as friends and colleagues knew him, was a UF alum, faculty member, and leader. He was a proud advocate for LGBTQ+ communities and was instrumental in establishing LGBTQ+ faculty and staff visibility, community, and support at UF.



Woods Grant Student Recipients

Rose Capo
MA, Women's
Studies

"Sex Education in
Florida: Queer
Floridian
Experiences in
the Digital Age"



Corrine Futch,
PhD,
Anthropology

"Life-saving or
Medically
Necessary?
Exploring
personhood
development, flourishing, and
care relationships through
gender-affirming treatment."



Ceci Luna,
MA, Women's Studies

"The Relationship between
queer Latinx sexual and
gender expression and
language; The use of -x and
-e gender-inclusive suffixes
and their impact on the
experiences of LGBTQ+
Latinxs in the U.S. diaspora."



Jane T. Perez,
MA, Latin American Studies

"Transition of and differences in
the development of LGBTQ+
rights in Cuba and Grenada."



Tegan Smith
MA, Women's Studies

"Ecofeminists and posthumanists and
their concepts of subjectivity; Co-creating
a future with more ecological, racial, and
gender justice."

AAUW– Gainesville Branch Grant



The Department is proud to announce this year's winner of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Gainesville Branch Grant. This grant was made possible by the generosity of the AAUW-Gainesville Branch to support women's studies students to conduct research, education, or initiatives that align with AAUW's mission: <https://www.aauw.org/>



Sumaiya Nusrath is a Ph.D. Candidate in Psychology and is earning a Certificate in Gender and Development.. Her research seeks to examine how multiple experiences of discrimination impact psychological wellbeing and distress of Muslim American Women.

We thank our external grant review committee members, Roberto Abreu, Greg Allen, Carlene Chase, Berta Esperanza Hernandez, and Amy Martinelli. For more information on awards and funding visit

<https://wst.ufl.edu/funding/>.



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Department of Gender, Sexuality,
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Congratulations to our Graduates

Congratulations to graduating MA students **Ebonee Brown**, **Beth Holden**, **Kelsey Lyn Malles**, **Nagdeska Paulino**, and **Elisa M. Rios** (see page 4).

Congratulations to our graduate certificate students **Lindsey Myers**, who earned an MFA from the College of the Arts, **Trina Mitchell**, who earned a PhD in Health and Human Performance, and **Samantha Baugus**, who received a PhD in English in summer 2022. Congratulations to **Hayley Markovich**, who earned a PhD in Mass Communications, and **Min Ji Kang**, who earned a PhD in English, in the fall semester, 2022 and to **Oriana Fernandez**, who earned an MS in Political Science, **Noah Mullens** who earned an MA in English, **Natalie Novak**, who earned an MFA from the College of the Arts, and **Trent Gautney**, who earned a Master of Sustainable Development Practice in the spring semester 2023. Myers, Mitchell, Baugus, Markovich, Kang, Fernandez, and Novak earned graduate certificates in Women's Studies and Gautney earned a graduate certificate in Gender and Development from the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies this past year.

Graduate and professional students from all colleges at UF are eligible to enroll in the Department's certificate programs in either Women's Studies or Gender and Development. Applications for the certificate must be submitted to the Department's Graduate Coordinator, [Dr. Jillian Hernandez](mailto:Dr.Jillian.Hernandez@ufl.edu). For more information visit the Department's graduate certificate page at <http://wst.ufl.edu/graduatestudies/graduate-certificates/>

